

FAIRMOUNT PARK ART ASSOCIATION, PHILA.

CEREMONIES ATTENDING THE UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL
IN BRONZE OF ROBERT MORRIS . . .

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The common misconception in regard to a work of sculpture is that it can be ordered by a committee, completed within a given time and unveiled at a date fixed in advance. There are artists who can fulfill these expectations; but as a rule a really great piece of sculpture represents the artist in his supreme moments; it is thought over, worked over, and lived with through the years, until it becomes a part of the very life of the sculptor. Here time cannot be of the essence of the contract in so far as the purchaser is concerned. But, in another sense, to the artist time imposes the test and, to his consciousness, is indeed the essence of his contract with immortality.

It often happens, therefore, that the Commission of Fine Arts becomes the seeming champion of the artist in his dealings with his clients; whereas in reality the Commission have in mind the enduring qualities of the work, and to secure these they are willing to smooth over delays that make for betterment."

*From the Tenth Report of
The National Commission of Fine Arts
To The President June 1, 1926.*



CEREMONIES ATTENDING
THE UNVEILING OF THE
MEMORIAL IN BRONZE OF
ROBERT MORRIS

· ON ·
THE STEPS OF THE
CUSTOM HOUSE
AT PHILADELPHIA
JUNE 18, 1926



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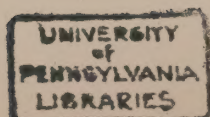
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THE ROBERT MORRIS MONUMENT
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THE LOCATION OF THE ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL ON THE STEPS OF THE CUSTOM HOUSE

PROGRAMME



ROLAND L. TAYLOR, PRESIDING

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER
PHILADELPHIA WELSH SINGERS

UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL
ROBERT MORRIS, GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDSON OF THE FINANCIER

ADDRESSES

HON. ANDREW W. MELLON
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

HON. GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM PENNSYLVANIA

REMARKS

HON. DAVID J. DAVIS
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. LOUIS T. McFADDEN
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. W. FREELAND KENDRICK
MAYOR OF PHILADELPHIA

THE BATTLE-HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC
PHILADELPHIA WELSH SINGERS



THE FIRST TROOP, PHILADELPHIA CITY CAVALRY

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WAS ESCORTED TO AND FROM THE
CEREMONIES BY THE
FIRST TROOP
PHILADELPHIA CITY CAVALRY

U. S. MARINE BAND

U. S. MARINE CORPS, GUARD
OF HONOUR



THE OPENING OF THE CEREMONIES

ADDRESS OF ROLAND L. TAYLOR, PRESIDING



ADIES AND GENTLEMEN, we are gathered here today to render honor to a great patriot, one of the greatest of America's patriots. If we wish to enter the field of speculation it is not difficult to deduce that but for Robert Morris we might yet be a colony or dominion of Great Britain. He was the only one to assume the burden of raising funds for the struggling army—no one appeared to help him. I say no one, yet there was one—a Jewish banker, Haym Salomon, who loaned large sums to Robert Morris, and it appears that out of his loans some \$400,000 was never repaid. \$400,000 at the time immediately after our Revolutionary War was equal to many millions today and perhaps much more. All honor for Haym Salomon! It was, however, Robert Morris who actually did raise the money which kept the little Continental Army alive, and even the loyalty to their great leader, George Washington, could not have kept the troops at Valley Forge in the field without food, clothing and ammunition. The supplies of all these were scanty as we know, but without them there could have been no army, and unless some other unknown patriot had risen in the place of Robert Morris the cause would have failed.

It is not my province today, however, to speak of Robert Morris. Others will do that much better than could I. It is rather my province to tell you in a few words of the formation and success of the movement which led to the creation and erection of the present memorial.

A number of years ago, Louis T. McFadden, then Cashier of the National Bank of Canton, now chairman of the Finance Committee of the National House of Representatives, speaking from the floor of the Convention of Pennsylvania State Bankers assembled at Bedford Springs, called attention to the fact that no memorial had ever been erected to Robert Morris, and offered a resolution that a committee be appointed to raise funds for this project. The resolution carried unanimously and Mr. McFadden was appointed Chairman of the Committee and your speaker, secretary.

Shortly after my return to Philadelphia I was called upon by Mr. Leslie W. Miller, for forty years Principal of the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art and Secretary of the Fairmount Park Art Association, who came accompanied by some of the trustees to suggest that I join their number and become Chairman of a Committee of their Association for the erection of a memorial to Robert

Morris, said Committee being already in existence, but not active. The two Committees therefore joined forces for this purpose. It was estimated that approximately \$15,000 would be sufficient to pay for



PAUL BARTLETT, SCULPTOR OF THE ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL
REPRODUCTION OF THE HEAD, BY CHARLES GRAFLY

a creditable statue and shortly afterwards an active campaign was started, resulting in the collection of \$10,000 within a few days.

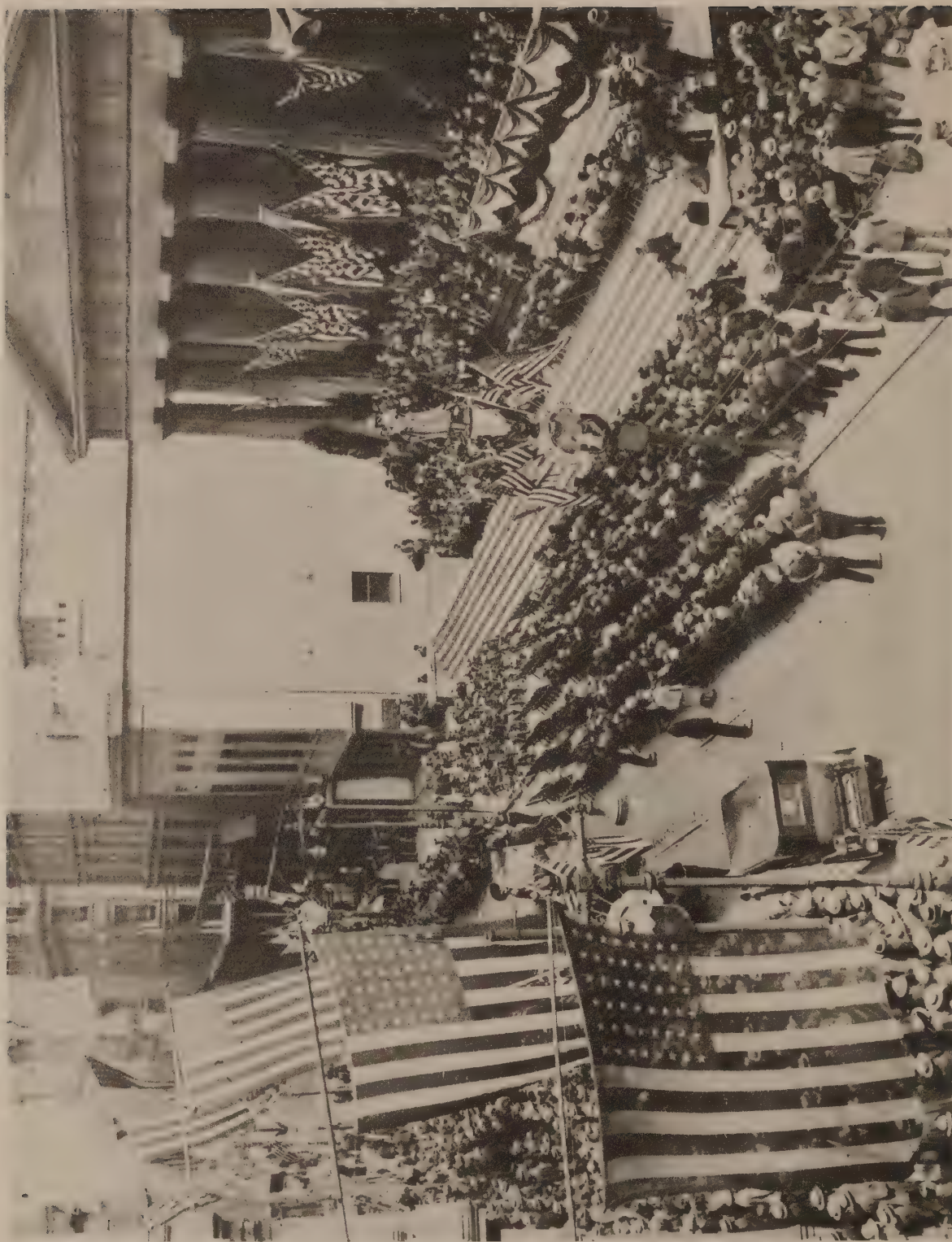
The total amount would have been reached in a few more days when an announcement appeared in the morning papers to the effect that a Bill had been passed by the State Legislature appropriating \$20,000 for the same purpose. I immediately wrote the then Governor of the

State suggesting that it would be foolish to have two memorials erected in the City of Philadelphia at the same time and asking whether he did not think it would be wise for us to join forces. Nothing occurred however for more than a year. It was manifestly impossible to ask private citizens to give for this purpose when the State had already appropriated a considerable sum. There was nothing left to do but await the Governor's pleasure. At the end of fourteen or fifteen months I received a letter from the Hon. H. M. Edwards, of Scranton, asking me to a meeting with the State Commission, of which he was Chairman. Mr. Leslie W. Miller and I went to the appointed meeting not knowing what to expect, but were very agreeably surprised to find five gentlemen of Welsh descent, who had been working for the past two years in the Legislature to get the appropriation. We immediately reached an agreement to join forces for the erection of a still finer memorial—thus three separate movements, each started without the knowledge of the other and approximately simultaneous in their inception, were brought together and a Joint Working Committee of the State Commission and the two Committees was formed, of which Judge Edwards was Chairman and your speaker Secretary.

An invitation was issued to all American sculptors to submit drawings for the memorial and of those submitted five were chosen as sufficiently meritorious for the award of prizes, and out of the five Mr. Richard B. Brooks was chosen as successful competitor. A contract was entered into with Mr. Brooks, but the Great Reaper called him home when his work was only half done.

After this the Committee was most fortunate in arousing the patriotic interest of Paul Bartlett, who undertook to carry out the contract. This was really patriotic service because under the usual form of contract Mr. Brooks had already received certain payments and the amount available was considerably reduced. Mr. Bartlett could not of course finish the figure begun by Mr. Brooks and had to start all over again according to his own conception and he knew from the beginning that the funds available would probably not do more than pay his costs, leaving no compensation for his labour. He however put his whole heart into the project with the result that we have one of the finest pieces of portrait statuary in the world.

It is very sad that he also has been gathered to his fathers so that we are without him in the dedication of his great work. His widow, Mrs. Bartlett, has cabled us her regrets at being unable to be here and her best wishes for a successful dedication. It is with sincere feeling



THE AUDIENCE WHICH GATHERED TO DO HONOUR TO ROBERT MORRIS ON THE GROUND UPON WHICH HE OFTEN TROD

that I record the death of Judge Edwards, Chairman of the State Commission, whose last thoughts were for the fulfillment of this project so dear to the hearts of himself and all of his compatriots of Welsh descent, throughout the great State of Pennsylvania.

I also want to pay tribute to Piccirilli Brothers in whose studio Paul Bartlett created this statue and who made the plaster casts from which the bronze castings were made. Mr. Limerick, of Baltimore, in whose foundry the figure was cast, also deserves honourable mention for the character of his work.

And now for the unveiling.—We are fortunate, very fortunate, in having with us a direct descendant of Robert Morris by the male line, his great-great-great grandson, Master Robert Morris, who will perform the actual ceremony of unveiling. Master Robert is not only the direct male descendant of his illustrious ancestor, but through his mother, Fannie Morris Waln, now Mrs. Robert Morris, also has title, as her great-great grandmother was the youngest daughter of Robert Morris.

I am told that Master Robert, upon being informed of his duty and privilege at this ceremony, asked when it would take place. He was answered that the date would be fixed as soon as the convenience of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Mellon, could be ascertained, whereupon he replied "Why wait for him? I can do it all myself."

We are again most fortunate in having with us our own great Secretary of the Treasury to dignify the proceedings in honour of Robert Morris, who was Secretary of Finance and Marine. I cannot say whether the burden carried by Morris or that carried by Mr. Mellon was greater. Certainly that of the former was simpler. There are many things that I could say about Mr. Andrew W. Mellon, but I shall not say them because he does not like to be eulogized. I may say, however, that every thinking man in the nation is full of admiration and gratitude for the masterly way in which he has reduced the war debt and its payment for the present and the future to a sane and orderly system; also for the clearness and sanity with which he analyzes public matters and the courage with which he expresses his convictions.

Mr. Secretary, I have the honour to turn over to your custody as representative of the Federal Government and as head of the department having authority over this building, this memorial statue erected on government property and looking down upon the very ground trod by Robert Morris in his patriotic service of raising funds in the interest of Liberty and the Independence of this Country.



HON. ANDREW W. MELLON, SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, DURING THE DELIVERY OF HIS ADDRESS

· ADDRESS OF ·
HONORABLE ANDREW W. MELLON

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

THE FINANCIAL POLICY OF ROBERT MORRIS



FEW MEN ARE INDISPENSABLE, but in American history there have been at least three whose work was essential in giving the nation the form in which it exists today. Washington founded the nation. Hamilton gave us our Federal Union and prevented our growth as a collection of petty sovereignties. And Robert Morris, by his patriotism and financial genius, not only helped to make possible the military success of Washington, but laid the foundation for Hamilton's later work and, with Washington and Hamilton, was instrumental in taking the steps which led to the Constitutional Convention and the formation at last of a strong National Government.

So accustomed are we to the smooth functioning of that Government today, that we are apt to underestimate the difficulties of the men who carried through the Revolutionary War. We are prone to forget that our present Governmental institutions had not then come into existence and that Morris, as Financier of the Revolution, was forced to solve his problems without the aid of a sound currency or a tax system that was effective in producing revenue, or even an adequate Government organization or a strong central authority.

The people of the thirteen States were patriotic and loyal in their support of the War, and the army fought with a courage and patriotism that have never been excelled. But Congress possessed no power to levy or collect taxes, and could make only recommendations and appeals to the States for contributions. Even today, with all the prestige of a firmly established and efficient National Government and with the strong sense of nationality which has grown up with it, we most assuredly could not secure the funds needed if we depended upon voluntary contributions from the State Governments.

At first the Continental Congress attempted to raise funds by issuing vast quantities of paper money in the belief that it would be given value by mere patriotic sentiment. Morris constantly remonstrated with Congress against the practice of issuing such currency without silver back of it. But Congress passed laws, providing severe penalties for those who refused to accept the paper money at face value and continued the practice of trying to raise funds in this way.



PANORAMIC VIEW



THE CELEBRATION

From 1775 to 1779, the notes which Congress issued steadily depreciated in value as there was no reasonable prospect for their redemption. At the end of the latter year the paper currency had become practically worthless and Congress was obliged to stipulate that taxes could be paid in corn, flour, meat or other supplies needed for the army. But the storage and transportation of such a cumbersome medium of exchange increased the difficulties of carrying on the war. Meanwhile Washington desperately needed funds to move his army to Virginia, where he planned to strike his next blow with the expectation of breaking the backbone of British resistance.

Such was the situation when Congress turned to Robert Morris as the one man whose financial skill and standing in the business world qualified him to bring order out of financial chaos. Morris was a partner in the great commercial house of Willing and Morris in Philadelphia, and was perhaps the leading merchant of the country. He had signed the Declaration of Independence and taken an active part in the prosecution and particularly in the financial operations of the war.

Congress abolished the Treasury Board which had managed the finances and on February 20, 1781, elected Morris to the office of Superintendent of Finance. In writing to him, Hamilton said: "It is by introducing order into our finances, by restoring public credit, not by winning battles that we are finally to gain our object." General Washington wrote to a Congressman: "I have great expectations from the appointment of Mr. Morris, but they are not unreasonable ones, for I do not suppose that by any magic art he can do more than recover us by degrees from the labyrinth into which our finances are plunged."

Morris accepted the appointment with extreme reluctance, knowing that he would be expected to make bricks without straw. But he had also a clear conception of his office and its possibilities. He determined to be not merely Superintendent of Finance of a loose alliance of independent States, but "Financier of the United States." He early perceived the importance of achieving a union of the States, because he knew that in no other way could adequate revenues be raised. Furthermore he realized, as did Hamilton, that financial reform could play an important part in bringing about such a union, as indeed it did several years later.

It is interesting to note the outlines of Morris' financial policy. They were, first, to institute retrenchment and substitute business methods in Government for the loose and wasteful administration by boards and committees; second, to give adequate financial support

to General Washington in his military operations; third, to provide a constant and permanent revenue by establishing a tax system under which Congress could levy duties on imports; and fourth, to found a bank through which the Government funds could be utilized for the establishment of public credit.

He relied upon securing loans from abroad as the only means of obtaining funds until money could be realized from taxes. The usual method pursued by Congress was to draw bills of exchange on Franklin at Paris and on its other representatives abroad, who managed by the utmost exertions to borrow from governments or private individuals the funds needed to meet these drafts.

It was from this source that Morris obtained the funds for organizing the Bank of North America, which opened for business in Philadelphia early in 1782. Meanwhile, Cornwallis had surrendered; but it was deemed inexpedient to disband the American Army until the intentions of England could be known. The States had refused their consent to the imposition of import duties by Congress, and practically no funds were available from taxes with which to pay the army before it was disbanded.

Congress again turned to Morris in its dilemma. It requested him to devise some method to meet the situation, and suggested that further funds be borrowed from France. He refused to borrow more money abroad unless an adequate system of taxation and debt funding were adopted for the repayment of the loans; and, as no measure could be agreed upon in Congress, he resigned his office as a means of impressing the gravity of the situation upon Congress and the country. He was induced to continue in office for some time longer and to carry through an issue of notes to provide the payments due to the army. These notes were distributed to the soldiers, who were then disbanded and Morris set about the difficult task of raising funds to meet the notes when due. After the utmost exertion he succeeded in retiring most of the notes and on November 1, 1784, resigned from the office of Superintendent of Finance, having served his country well through the most difficult years of its history.

Morris' public service did not end here. He soon saw that the union of the States, which had been achieved at such cost during the war, was about to be destroyed in the inevitable clash of conflicting State interests. This was particularly true as regarded the police and tax regulations of the waterways common to two or more States. There was a collapse of credit and currency, so that at last conditions pointed to the calling of a convention which should form "a more perfect union."



THE SPEAKERS: RIGHT TO LEFT, HON. GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER; ROLAND L. TAYLOR; HON. ANDREW W. MELLON;
HON. W. FREELAND KENDRICK; HON. DAVID J. DAVIS; HON. LOUIS T. MCFADDEN

· ADDRESS OF ·
HONORABLE GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER

UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM PENNSYLVANIA



HERE STANDS ROBERT MORRIS, the Financier of the American Revolution. He was Superintendent of Finance during the critical period of the War for American Independence, an office corresponding to that of Secretary of the Treasury. After the adoption of the Constitution he became one of the first two Senators to represent Pennsylvania in the Senate of the United States. If the genius of the sculptor could have breathed life as well as life-likeness into this bronze we should today be calling upon Morris to speak for himself. As it is, the latest of the Senators from Pennsylvania must speak in place of the earliest.

Perhaps, after all, I can present him to you more adequately than he could have presented himself. He would not be likely to think of himself as a savior of his country. Yet it is the simple fact that he had the unconquerable optimism which enabled him to see success where others saw only failure. He was able to be enthusiastic in the patriot cause in days when his fellows were freely predicting final disaster. He made up his mind that he would back Washington to the end even if everybody else deserted him. It was he, more than any other man out of uniform, who snatched victory from the jaws of defeat and transformed the Declaration of Independence from a rhetorical utterance into an echoing voice.

In one hundred and fifty years of national life we have engaged in six conflicts. Jefferson once expressed the hope that the Republic might never live more than twenty-five years without a war. It is a curious fact that this half-serious aspiration of his has proved to be prophetic. We have waged, on an average, a war every quarter of a century. In the Revolution we fought to secure our independence. In 1812 we waged a war of protest against the violation on the sea of our rights as a neutral in the struggle which was convulsing Europe. In the forties we had a boundary war with Mexico. In the sixties we survived an internal struggle which threatened our national integrity. In the nineties we took up arms to end a neighborhood situation which had become unbearable. In 1917 we went to meet a tremendous conflagration sweeping westward and we helped to quench it before its fires could reach and consume our homes. (Applause.) There are only two

other types of war known to history—purely defensive and wantonly aggressive wars. These we have not waged and, please God, we never shall. But in each of the conflicts which have really tried our souls we have looked as eagerly for someone to administer the nation's purse as for someone to wield the nation's sword. In the war of Independence it was Morris the Financier who sustained Washington the soldier. In the days of the Napoleonic struggle, it was Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury, with Stephen Girard and David Parish, patriotic private bankers, who maintained the public credit and saved the solvency of the Republic. In the darkest days of the Civil War it was Jay Cooke who stepped forward from the financial ranks and helped to convert hope into final victory. These men were all found in Pennsylvania. It seems as if Robert Morris had sired a line of patriotic financiers who were always equal to the country's greatest need. They never received the grateful homage with which the wielders of the sword were rewarded. On the contrary they were for the most part unpopular. They were subjected to fierce criticism. Their motives were attacked. Even their integrity was assailed. Yet they were absolutely indispensable to national salvation, although it has taken something like a century for us to find it out. Today we are doing tardy justice to Morris' memory. A movement is on foot similarly to honor Gallatin. We have extolled Girard rather for the noble institution which he founded than for his service in saving the credit of his country. In time we shall adequately honor Jay Cooke, although we Pennsylvanians are tragically slow to recognize the merits of our own.

Pericles, in one of the world's great orations, called attention to a fact of psychology often over-looked. He says that a man can bear to hear another man praised as long as he believes that the thing done is something that he could have done himself. If, however, a man knows that he never could do the thing in question, he resents the praise given to the doer, because he prefers to belittle the other man's service and to pretend that what he himself cannot do is not worth doing. This explains why most of us cheer the general and criticize the financier. We can fancy ourselves to be good fighting men and we can picture ourselves all dressed up and victorious on horseback. But we cannot dream of doing such things as Morris did, so we are a bit too ready to depreciate the man who raises the money, funds the debt, sustains our credit and maintains the national solvency.

If this statue could speak we should be able to hear Morris tell us of his birth in Liverpool in 1734; of his coming to Philadelphia as a lad

of 13; of his extraordinary business career in this city; of his devotion to Washington and his friendship for Lafayette; of his weird experiences with the Continental Congress; of his career as Superintendent of Finance for the confederated colonies; of his service in the Senate; of the home that he built for himself on High Street East of 6th, on the site of Penn's house; of how he lent it for President Washington's use as the executive mansion; of his country place near Lemon Hill in Fairmount Park; of his ill-success in many strange promotions; of his purchase of almost the entire block between Walnut and Chestnut and 7th and 8th and the construction thereon of the unfinished palace which came to be known as Morris' Folly; of his failure in business and of his imprisonment for three years in the old Debtors' Prison on Prune Street. All this and more we might have coaxed him to tell us. Perhaps, however, he could not have trusted himself to speak of one of the most touching incidents in history — the visit that General Washington paid to him in Prison and of how the Father of His Country supped there with the prisoner who had loyally coöperated with him to make liberty possible.

It is a hundred and twenty years since Robert Morris died. We may congratulate ourselves upon this opportunity to do him tardy justice. If he can look down upon this gathering he cannot fail to be gratified. Here are assembled in his honor representative citizens of his home city. Here is the Mayor of this City and the Lieutenant-Governor of the State. Here is Mr. Roland Taylor, the Chairman and his fellow members of the Commission which has erected the statue and Congressman McFadden who sees today the consummation of a project suggested long ago. But Morris' gratification must be greatest when he perceives in our midst the distinguished Secretary of the Treasury. Here is the man who has done for the country in the period following the World War what the financiers of the Morris breed have done in every age. Nay — he has done more — in the sense that he has dealt with problems more complex, with figures far greater and with issues of more far-reaching importance. He is the latest of Morris' patriotic progeny. He has come to join us in our tribute to the memory of his distinguished predecessor.

Let us, with Morris, revive our faith in the destiny of the Republic. Let us, with him, leap forward to serve when the country calls and, like him, return cheerfully to our own place when our service is no longer needed. Let us, at the foot of this statue, rebaptize ourselves in that spirit of unselfish patriotism which has made Morris and his breed the lights of our land in their several generations.



THE MARINE BAND—ROBERT MORRIS, UNDER THE ACT OF CONGRESS, WAS SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCE AND MARINE

· ADDRESS OF ·
HONORABLE LOUIS T. McFADDEN

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



As THE appointed representative of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association, I am, indeed, pleased to participate in the dedication of this splendid memorial to mark the memory of Robert Morris. It is quite fitting and proper that this movement which is being so beautifully consummated today should have been initiated by the bankers of this State and that this site should have been chosen because it is in this State and in this immediate vicinity that some of the most noted accomplishments of this great statesman and financier took place. It was here, almost on the spot, that Morris laid the foundation for the great banking and credit structure which has been since his time enlarged to meet the growing needs of our great Country. The fact is also pertinent that the financial institution which he founded in 1780 to serve a National purpose, did serve that purpose and is still in existence and in active operation as one of the leading financial institutions of this City, State and Country.

Robert Morris was first appointed to serve Pennsylvania in the Congress of the United States on November 3, 1775, reëlected in 1776. His last election to Congress was in December, 1777. In August, 1778, he was appointed a member of the Standing Committee of Finance of the United States. In 1781 he was elected Superintendent of Finance of the United States.

The establishment of the Bank of North America was one of the first and most prominent acts in his administration. But for this institution his plans of finance must have been totally frustrated.

Previous to the Revolutionary War he had laid the foundation of a bank and established a credit in Europe for the purpose of carrying the plan into execution. His design, however, was defeated by the war, and he then devoted to the benefit of his Country the knowledge that he had acquired of the principles of banking and of the advantages resulting to a commercial community from a well regulated bank by enabling merchants in cases of exigencies to anticipate their funds and to take advantage of occasions which offered well grounded schemes of speculation.

It was on the 17th of May, 1781, he submitted to the consideration of Congress his plan for establishing a National bank. Here he laid the foundation for our successful credit system so ably carried on by his successor in office, Alexander Hamilton, his close personal friend and associate. This generation owes much to the splendid work of these two geniuses of finance, who met and conquered the problems of their day with financial intelligence.

Except for Morris, Hamilton and Gallatin, we probably would not have the splendid financial system in operation in the United States that we have in the National bank and Federal reserve systems, two systems intertwined and working in harmony with our State and private financial systems, meeting the demands of commerce and trade of a magnitude never known before to mankind in any Country. It is proper and fitting on this occasion, while we are marking the memory of one of this Country's greatest financiers, to pay our respects and express our gratitude for the foundation which he helped lay. The Federal reserve system is the most powerful banking system in the World today. In its safe keeping rests one-half of the World's gold, and the organization of credit, made possible by the installation of this system, has enabled it to meet the demands of expansion in trade and commerce in this Country and throughout the World, until today this financial system, organized and placed in operation at the outbreak of the World War, is the greatest stabilizing influence in the United States, and by its contact with banks of issue of the leading countries of the World, we find it to be the World's greatest stabilizer. We find also that the basis of its ability to serve rests upon the great credit structure which is made possible by public confidence, the same basic principles that made possible the success of the organization of the Bank of North America by Robert Morris in 1780.

The perpetuation of our present system of banking depends upon legislation now pending in Congress over which enactment I have the responsibility of direction. Surely we are not going to defeat and destroy the splendid development in our credit structure so ably started by Robert Morris and refined and improved during the succeeding years. Embodied in this legislation is the renewal charter right of our financial system to exist, the necessity for which is to the average man readily apparent. But many cross currents of diversified interests and objections are presented which are delaying and endangering the very foundations of the system. It is hoped and expected, however, that the present Congress will act wisely in modernizing and continuing the

law which will perpetuate this great organization of credit, the Federal reserve and National banking systems.

Public service is always rendered at great personal sacrifice, and Robert Morris was no exception to this rule. No individual, no public body did more than Morris to extricate the Country from the pecuniary embarrassments of his time. But such exertions are not blazoned with brilliant exploits of conquerors and heroes which illuminate the annals of a Country. We know, however, that the operations of the machinery which guided the war of the revolution would often have stood still had not Robert Morris been principally instrumental in furnishing the moving power after all other means had perished. His extraordinary exertions in the Department of Finance, the extent of his influence in the commercial relations of the Nation both at home and abroad, and his successful efforts in the accomplishment of its independence have elicited the honorable acknowledgment that to the zeal and ability of Washington only were superior honors due. We Americans owe as much acknowledgment to the financial operations of Robert Morris as to the negotiations of Benjamin Franklin, or even to the arms of Washington.

These important services rendered to this Country entitle Robert Morris to universal admiration, and obligate us to everlasting public gratitude.



THE WELSH SINGERS AT THE DEDICATION

· REMARKS OF ·
HONORABLE DAVID J. DAVIS

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA



DEEM it a special privilege to have been elected to represent the Welsh people of this Commonwealth in the unveiling of this memorial to a fellow Welshman.

Born of humble parents in Liverpool, England, Robert Morris migrated to this country at the age of thirteen. His early life was necessarily filled with work and endeavor while he was laying the primary foundation and fitting himself for the great work he was afterward to engage in.

He was honored by his fellow men in being selected to represent them in the Legislature, Continental Congress and the United States Senate, positions he filled with conspicuous and unusual ability, reflecting tremendous credit upon himself. His service on the Committee of Ways and Means during the war and the pledging of his personal fortune were of incalculable benefit to his adopted country. He was the outstanding financier of his day, an executive of tireless energy with the ability to accomplish what at times seemed the impossible.

Due to his retiring nature and unselfish disposition the work he did was less conspicuous than that of any of the other great men associated with him in the making of our history.

At his death in this city on May 8, 1806, the State lost a man whose dominating influence was always for good, and the Nation lost one of its outstanding citizens.

We recall with regret the unfortunate circumstances which befell him in the eve of his life, more especially in view of the great assistance rendered his country. To have been incarcerated for acts which involved no criminal intent must have been most humiliating and distressing.

Fortunately for all of us he has left endearing monuments and memories which we shall always cherish and which will ever be an inspiration to those who are to follow and to carry on, and we honor ourselves in participating in the unveiling of this monument to his memory on the site which was the scene of his activities.



PROFILE OF THE STATUE

· SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE ·
HONORABLE W. FREELAND KENDRICK

MAYOR OF PHILADELPHIA



R. CHAIRMAN, Secretary Mellon, Ladies and Gentlemen: Philadelphia is honored today by the presence of the distinguished member of the President's Cabinet, and on behalf of the two million people that I have the honor to represent, I want to express the appreciation of our citizens in the kindness of Secretary Mellon coming here to Philadelphia to participate in these exercises.

It seems to me to be particularly appropriate that the statue of Robert Morris was unveiled during the Sesquicentennial celebration, because the real thought of the people of Philadelphia is to bring to the memories of the people of the City and the State and the Nation today, the courageous acts of the handful of courageous pioneers who made this Nation possible, the Signers of the Declaration of Independence — I am happy indeed that today in the City of Philadelphia a memorial has been unveiled that will be a perpetual reminder of the courage, the generosity and the splendid character of Robert Morris.

So much has been said regarding him that it seems useless for me to attempt to expand thereon, but in this modern day I would remind you that Robert Morris was one of the original members of the Wardens of the Port of the City of Philadelphia. It was under their direction that the first pier was built in the City of Philadelphia on the Delaware River. It was 100 feet long and 30 feet wide. Today the City of Philadelphia has an investment of a little more than Thirty Millions of Dollars in Municipal Piers on the Delaware River, and they are building them 1,500 feet long and 300 feet wide.

This memorial is another evidence of the development of the rich heritage that has been left to you and to me through that courage, that liberality, that confidence in the future which was typified in the men of the character of Robert Morris and those forefathers who made our Nation possible.



MASTER ROBERT MORRIS, WHO UNVEILED THE MEMORIAL. HE IS A GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRANDSON
OF THE FINANCIER

PRIOR TO THE FORMAL CEREMONIES, THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, THE OTHER SPEAKERS AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS WERE ENTERTAINED AT LUNCHEON BY MR. ROLAND L. TAYLOR, CHAIRMAN OF THE ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE OF THE FAIRMOUNT PARK ART ASSOCIATION, A MEMBER OF THE ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BANKERS ASSOCIATION, AND SECRETARY OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE. HIS GUESTS WERE:

HON. ANDREW W. MELLON,
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES

ELLIS AMES BALLARD,
PRESIDENT, THE PRINT CLUB

HON. JAMES M. BECK,
FORMER SOLICITOR GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

SAMUEL T. BODINE,
PRESIDENT, THE UNITED GAS IMPROVEMENT COMPANY

EDWARD W. BOK,
CAPITALIST

HON. BERKEY H. BOYD,
MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA STATE COMMISSION ON
ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL

CHARLES S. CALWELL,
PRESIDENT, CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK

ROBERT K. CASSATT,
BANKER, CASSATT & COMPANY

FRANCIS T. CHAMBERS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW

GEORGE B. CHRISTIAN, JR.

MORRIS L. CLOTHIER,
PRESIDENT, STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

CHARLES J. COHEN,
PRESIDENT, FAIRMOUNT PARK ART ASSOCIATION

JAY COOKE,
DIRECTOR, PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY

WALTER L. COURSEN,
PRESIDENT, TUBIZE ARTIFICIAL SILK COMPANY OF
AMERICA

HENRY B. COXE,
CAPITALIST

ANDREW WRIGHT CRAWFORD,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, FAIRMOUNT PARK ART
ASSOCIATION

CYRUS H. K. CURTIS,
PRESIDENT, CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY

SAMUEL M. CURWEN,
PRESIDENT, J. G. BRILL COMPANY

HON. DAVID J. DAVIS,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

AGNEW T. DICE,
PRESIDENT, THE READING COMPANY

HENRY E. DRAYTON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW

WILLIAM P. GEST,
PRESIDENT, FIDELITY-PHILADELPHIA TRUST COMPANY

ELLIS GIMBEL,
GIMBEL BROTHERS

ROBERT GLENDINNING,
BANKER, ROBERT GLENDINNING & COMPANY

HON. CHARLES B. HALL,
PRESIDENT, CITY COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA

C. ADDISON HARRIS, JR.,
PRESIDENT, FRANKLIN TRUST COMPANY

CHARLES C. HARRISON,
PAST PROVOST, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

COL. CHARLES SANDERSON HILL, U. S. M. C.,
COMMANDING OFFICER, PHILADELPHIA MARINE CORPS

WALTER JANNEY,
BANKER, JANNEY & COMPANY

ALBA B. JOHNSON,
PRESIDENT, PENNSYLVANIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LIVINGSTON E. JONES,
PRESIDENT, FIRST NATIONAL BANK

HON. W. FREELAND KENDRICK,
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

L. H. KINNARD,
PRESIDENT, BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF
PENNSYLVANIA

WILLIAM A. LAW,
PRESIDENT, PENN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS,
PRESIDENT, PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF THE FINE
ARTS

HON. J. WILLIS MARTIN,
PRESIDENT JUDGE, COMMON PLEAS COURT NO. 5 OF
PHILADELPHIA

J. RUTHERFORD McALLISTER,
PRESIDENT, FRANKLIN-FOURTH STREET NATIONAL
BANK

HON. LOUIS T. McFADDEN,
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

JOHN WYCKOFF METTLER,
PRESIDENT, INTERWOVEN STOCKING COMPANY

THOMAS E. MITTEN,
PRESIDENT, MITTEN MEN AND MANAGEMENT

DR. HENRY MORRIS,
GREAT-GRANDSON OF THE FINANCIER OF THE
REVOLUTION

JOHN S. NEWBOLD,
BANKER, WM. H. NEWBOLD'S SON & COMPANY

GEORGE W. NORRIS,
GOVERNOR, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

HON. GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER,
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM PENNSYLVANIA

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN S. PHILLIPS,
CHAIRMAN, PENNSYLVANIA STATE COMMISSION ON
ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL

SAMUEL REA,
PRESIDENT, PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY

BENJAMIN RUSH,
PRESIDENT, THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH
AMERICA

ALBERT L. SMITH,
BANKER, E. B. SMITH & COMPANY

W. HINCKLE SMITH,
TREASURER, FAIRMOUNT PARK ART ASSOCIATION

HON. WILLIAM C. SPROUL,
EX-GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH ALLISON STEINMETZ,
JANNEY-STEINMETZ & COMPANY

EDWARD T. STOTESBURY,
PRESIDENT, FAIRMOUNT PARK COMMISSION

WILLIAM JAY TURNER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HON. ROBERT VON MOSCHZISKER,
CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

SAMUEL D. WARRINER,
PRESIDENT, LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY

JOSEPH WAYNE, JR.,
PRESIDENT, PHILADELPHIA-GIRARD NATIONAL BANK

THOMAS RAEBURN WHITE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW

CLEMENT B. WOOD,
CAPTAIN, FIRST TROOP, PHILADELPHIA CITY CAVALRY

CHARLTON YARNALL,
CAPITALIST

ROLAND L. TAYLOR
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON THE ROBERT MORRIS MEMORIAL
OF THE FAIRMOUNT PARK ART ASSOCIATION



*The Pennsylvania State Commission
The Pennsylvania Bankers Association
and the
Fairmount Park Art Association*

*request the honour of your presence
at the ceremonies attending the dedication of
the statue of*

Robert Morris

by the late Paul Bartlett

to be held on the steps of the Custom House

Chestnut street east of Fifth street

Philadelphia

Friday afternoon June 18th 1926

at 3 o'clock daylight saving time



*An early answer is requested to
Mr. Roland S. Taylor, Chairman
Morris Building, Philadelphia*

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Fairmount Park Art Association,
Philadelphia

Ceremonies attending the unveiling
of the memorial in bronze of Robert
Morris...

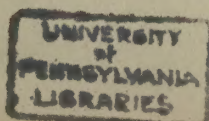
DATE DUE

BORROWER'S NAME

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